



FENCE DESIGN GUIDELINES

Section 13.08 of the Rutherford County Zoning Resolution

Though a permit from Building Codes is not required for the installation of fences, the Rutherford County Zoning Resolution contains guidelines for the installation of fences in the unincorporated areas of Rutherford County. It is important to refer to these regulations prior to the installation of a fence on your property. The regulations are as follows:

Section 13.08. Fence Design Guidelines

1. All fence materials shall be treated wood or wood of natural resistance to decay, hot-dip galvanized steel, plastic materials, rocks, masonry components, aluminum, cast metal, or other similar materials or combination of materials. All wood shall be construction grade 2 or better. All fence posts/supports shall be set into the ground a minimum depth of two (2) feet. If conditions on the property (e.g. rock) make it difficult to comply with this requirement, alternate measures may be utilized after consultation with the Planning and Engineering Department and Building and Codes Department. In any event, adequate measures shall be employed in order to ensure the long-term stability of the fence.
2. Permitted fences - The following types of fences are permitted in all zoning districts:
 - Masonry or Stone Walls
 - Ornamental Iron
 - Chain-link
 - Wood
 - Other materials may be considered on a case-by-case basis
3. Prohibited Fences - The following types of fences are prohibited:
 - Fences constructed primarily of barbed wire or razor wire, except when used in conjunction with an agricultural use or purpose.
 - Fences carrying electrical current, except for the purpose of enclosing livestock for an agricultural use.
 - Fences constructed of readily flammable materials such as paper, cloth, or canvas except for temporary fences required by law (e.g. drainage silt fencing).
 - Fences topped with barbed wire, concertina wire, and or metal spikes in residential areas, except those serving a public institution for public safety or security purposes.
 - Fences constructed of concertina wire.
 - Fences or walls made of solid plywood, scrap lumber, and similar non-customary materials.
 - Fences or walls made of common concrete or cinderblock.
 - Fences, walls, or hedges on any portion of any public right-of-way, except fences erected by a governmental agency.
 - Fences, walls, or vegetation that interferes with clear vision at or near a public or private street, alley, driveway or other means of ingress or egress such that the sight of oncoming vehicular or pedestrian traffic is impaired for users of such ingress or egress.
 - Fences, walls, or vegetation so constructed or planted as to impede the natural water drainage and or water runoff.
4. Fences shall be positioned so that the finished side faces away from the lot on which it is constructed.
5. Five (5') feet of clearance shall be maintained between any fence and all sides of an electrical transformer, except the side of the transformer which is padlocked shall have a ten (10') clearance.
6. Five (5') feet of clearance shall be maintained between the fence and all sides of an electrical pedestal.
7. Maintenance - It is the responsibility of the owner of the property on which the fence is erected to maintain the fence structure in good repair at all times. If a fence is found to be in a deteriorated condition or in need of repair, including but not limited to broken or missing structural components, or the fence is substantially less than perpendicular to the grade, the property owner may be ordered to repair, replace, or remove the fence depending on the condition of the fence. Such order shall be issued by the Building Official pursuant to the Rutherford County Zoning Resolution.
8. Sight Triangle - The location of buildings, structures, and landscaping shall not be constructed or planted in any manner that would obstruct the vision of drivers of motor vehicles. No buildings or structures shall be erected or maintained, nor any landscaping planted, grown, or maintained within an area defined as the vision triangle. The Vision Triangle is area defined as follows:
 - On Corner lots it is a triangle determined by a diagonal line connecting two (2) points measured along the property line of the abutting streets thirty (30') feet equidistant from the intersection of those property lines.
 - On interior lots it is triangle determined by a diagonal line connecting two (2) points measured along the street right-of-way line and the driveway boundary line for a distance of fifteen (15') feet equidistant from the intersection of those diagonal lines.



Fence Compliance Affidavit

Rutherford County Planning and Engineering Department

I, _____, intending to be legally bound, hereby certify that the fence proposed to be erected at _____ will be installed in accordance with all applicable regulations established in Section 13.08 (1)-(8) of the Rutherford County Zoning Resolution.

Please Initial:

_____ I have received a copy of the Section 13.08 of the Rutherford County Zoning Resolution.

Check the Appropriate Answer:

* FENCE WILL BE INSTALLED AS A POOL BARRIER: YES _____ NO _____
FENCE IS BEING INSTALLED ON CORNER LOT: YES _____ NO _____

Fence Contractor/Homeowner Signature

Date

Fence Contractor/Homeowner Name (print)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, 20____ by _____.

Notary Public

Personally known _____ Produced ID _____

*******FENCES USED AS POOL BARRIERS*******
MUST BE INSPECTED TO VERIFY
COMPLIANCE WITH THE INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE
FORM CANNOT BE USED FOR A POOL BARRIER